

REMARKS

This Supplemental Reply provides a copy of a patent that supports Applicant's arguments. The Examiner is also respectfully requested to note the following correction to the first paragraph on page 7 of the Remarks filed on November 14, 2005.

More specifically, the Examiner should note that the coating of the Mori reference is not a thermal spray coating. Rather, the coating of the Mori reference is a sintered one having a porous microstructure. The porous microstructure holds or stores oil within it, which is an essential feature (e.g. oil impregnation) of the bush and washer employed for bearings. In this regard, see column 9, lines 59-62 of U.S. Patent 4,430,386, which is a main application of the Mori reference. Since the raw materials used in the prior art were coarse particles, the binding strength among the powder particles was small and the resulting alloy has poor bending properties and toughness. In order to solve this problem, Mori proposed that fine particles such as phosphor-bronze alloy powder passed through a 200-mesh screen and graphite powder passed through a 350-mesh screen be used to improve mechanical properties such as tensile strength, bonding strength and the hardness of the alloy layer. The use of fine particles increases the contact points of the particles in order to improve the mechanical properties. Porosity of the alloy layer is controlled by the sintering process such as control of the sintering temperature.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Marc S. Weiner (Reg. No. 32,181 ) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

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